

Not for release before October 10, 1947

STATEMENT OF J. STROM THURMOND, GOVERNOR OF SOUTH
CAROLINA, ON PROCEDURE FOR DEACTIVATION OF DANGEROUS
WAR TROPHIES, COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, OCTOBER 10, 1947.

Because of the many accidents resulting from the handling of war trophies, the Treasury, War, and Navy Departments and the National Rifle Association are putting on a drive to render harmless such souvenirs.

Land mines, grenades, all types of shells, projectiles, semi-automatic pistols, machine guns, and machine pistols brought home from foreign battlefields have caused many wounds and deaths. All of these accidents could have been prevented very easily.

The Treasury, War, and Navy Departments have appointed State Committees to represent them in this program. The committees will direct all holders of war trophies to places where the weapons will be examined and deactivated. The method used will not in any way hurt the appearances of the trophies.

I urge all people who have such weapons to contact:

Investigator in Charge
Alcohol Tax Unit
301 Capital Life Insurance Company
1001 Laurel Street
Columbia, South Carolina

Deactivation can also be arranged at any Army or Navy post.

52